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the second refuses to profit by the misfortunes of his elder brother. The peculiarities of the laws of primogeniture and entailment are brought out, although in this case they are not answerable for the mischief occasioned by a rash procedure on the part of the parent. The story has many strong points about it, especially if viewed as a satire upon the manners and customs of the English upper classes, or, indeed, the rich and luxurious classes everywhere. The authors seem to have agreed upon a pessimistic standpoint. There is not a hero or heroine in the whole novel worthy of the name. Even the villain of the story is a blundering guardsman who is as much fool as knave. As a picture of English life it is one-sided. The men and women are below the average in intellect as in manners. When father and sons meet there are always pitiful exhibitions of folly and rancour, with the thinnest gauze of good breeding to prevent actual breaches of the peace. There is something approaching imbecility in the amiable efforts of the injured brother to ward off the troubles continually brewing in the family. The ideal woman of the piece is a mere sketch and hardly awakens sympathy. There is a promise of character about Lily Ford, but at the critical moment she vanishes from sight, and when she again appears is evidently but a very commonplace personage after all. To us the work bears evidence of an overstraining at effect, and a consciousness of difficulty in the treatment. Either author would probably have written a better story if unencumbered by the assistance of the other.

### VIII.

#### CARE AND CULTURE OF CHILDREN.

THE Woman's Temperance Association of Chicago publish a volume on the care and culture of childhood,\* by Mary Allen West. The author claims that the book "has grown naturally out of the rich soil of a thousand homes," which being interpreted means that the author writes from experience and observation and not from mere theory. The contents are varied, including chapters on the child's body, babyhood, childhood, boyhood and girlhood, children's rights, work and play, amusements, behavior, domestic economy, family government, practical health hints, and other topics. There are also a number of illustrations, and, interspersed among the reading matter, are songs set to music, suitable for the nursery and the home. The book makes a large and handsome octavo of 723 pages, including a copious index. It is pervaded by strong Christian and temperance sentiment, the author holding that the growth in a child of a true and healthy religious and physical life is greatly to be desired and sought after, not only for its own sake, but for the general well being of society. On the various practical questions coming under treatment the views set forth are sound and sensible. The variety and range of topics almost invite the remark that some at least must suffer from superficial or hackneyed treatment, but the author appears to have labored conscientiously and carefully over each section, and to have brought together many wise thoughts and counsels for the benefit of those who really desire guidance and help in the care and nurture of children. The subject is one of vast moment and deserves the exhaustive treatment it has here received.

### IX.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls have added an interesting contribution to Shakespearian literature† in the form of a *fac-simile* of the original 1623 (sometimes

\* "Childhood, its Care and Culture." By Mary Allen West. Woman's Temperance Publication Society.

† "The Works of William Shakespeare," in reduced *fac-simile*, from the famous first folio edition of 1623. Funks & Wagnalls.